

hour work weeks. He's devoting more time now to his wife, family, and three grandchildren, not to mention their dog Loretta. Both he and Sue, the activities programmer at the special needs unit at the Vernon Green Nursing Home, were married before, he said, and family means a great deal to both of them.

Johnson divorced in his 20s, and his only child, 3-year-old son Jeremiah, was murdered 18 years ago in Texas by his ex-wife's drunken half-brother. Johnson says his grief almost destroyed him.

But his renewed interest in his Christian religion has made him forgive his former brother-in-law, who is out of prison after serving most of a 10-year sentence. "I forgive him. In God's eyes he's forgiven. But do I think he's a nice person? No.

"I don't believe in the death penalty. I'm a death penalty opponent," he says.

Religion helps him, he says, deal with his personal tragedy and job stress. And he uses his voice—"I sing tenor"—in the choir of the South Vernon Advent Christian Church, where both his grandfathers were pastors.

Back after lunch, Johnson makes a few calls to get the proverbial sound bite to flesh out a story from the AP about an issue in the governor's race relating to homosexuality and public education.

This afternoon, he will even do double duty, cueing up CDs for a missing DJ, expertly flipping through the playlist, selecting a song to fit the time slot and sliding it into the stacked CD players, all with seconds to go.

He dashes between music and news, cueing up disks and editing the sound bites he garnered from Vernon NEA President Angelo Dorta, all at amazing speed.

He's in his element.●

SUGAR BEETS

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to bring attention to a disaster facing many Eastern Montanans. As you are aware, Montana has faced wildfires and drought this summer. Another type of disaster has struck the upper Yellowstone Valley. This region grows and processes about one million tons of sugar beets a year. Sugar beets must be harvested before the ground freezes to ensure the quality of the product. On October 4, 2000, temperatures dropped very low and a heavy frost impacted the area. The growers who are under contract to Holly Sugar are now left without a viable crop that, under normal conditions, would bring \$40 million to the area. This is the major cash crop for this part of Montana. Without this revenue, futures, jobs, and businesses will be in jeopardy. I bring this important matter to your attention today, so that you will be prepared to assist me in getting the necessary financial help to these producers whose very future may hinge on the help we can provide.●

TO COMMEMORATE THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, the year 2000 marks an occasion that is worthy of recognition by the Senate. The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii celebrates its sesquicentennial, marking

the 150th anniversary of its first meeting, on October 15, 1850, of a group of Honolulu businessmen at the behest of Hawaii's King Kamehameha III. They founded the Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, an organization that would lead the Hawaiian Islands' growth in trade, commerce, economic and social development through the years. The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii is the second-oldest chamber of commerce west of the Rockies, and the only American chamber founded under a monarchy.

The history of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii includes many, many accomplishments. I wish to provide a glimpse of their more notable achievements which I believe merit recognition.

In 1867, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii initiated negotiations for the first treaty of reciprocity in trade between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Hawaii.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii authored the Hawaiian National Banking Act of 1884, allowing the establishment of the banking system that has evolved into Hawaii's current system.

In 1898, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii began its successful advocacy for a Hawaii-San Francisco Trans-Pacific cable.

The Hawaii Visitors Bureau, today known as the Hawaii Visitors and Conventions Bureau, was founded by the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii in 1903. This agency has led the development of Hawaii's visitor industry, which today is the largest sector of Hawaii's economy.

In 1907, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii conducted a survey of the Pearl River to facilitate the construction of a harbor and dry dock that is now Pearl Harbor. The United States Pacific Command today provides a strong, forward based U.S. defense in the Asia-Pacific region from this great harbor.

In 1919, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii founded Aloha United Way, Hawaii's leading charitable organization which annually collects millions of dollars for the needy in Hawaii.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii became the trustee of Hawaii's Public Health Fund in 1923. The Public Health Fund provides seed money for approximately 20 public health projects each year.

In 1928, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii's aviation committee sought out airlines to provide the first inter-island air service.

In 1929, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii drafted a plan to increase the depth of Honolulu Harbor to accommodate modern ships and facilitate international trade. Today, Honolulu Harbor is our primary port of entry for the vast majority of all goods to Hawaii.

In 1941, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii founded the Blood Bank of Hawaii. Later that year, the services of the Blood Bank helped to save many lives when Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7th, 1941.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii was an active and vocal advocate for

statehood for Hawaii. In 1959, The Chamber joined other local advocates in celebrating Hawaii's statehood.

In 1978, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii played a leading role in Hawaii's State Constitutional Convention.

Throughout its 150-year history, and continuing today, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii has helped to support a strong U.S. economic and military presence in the Asia-Pacific region. As the economies of the region grow, The Chamber's continued support for a strong, forward based military presence that provides the stability prerequisite to prosperity will be important. The Chamber's continued work to promote economic development in the region will play a vital role in aiding the goals and interests of Hawaii and the United States in the Asia-Pacific region.

Congratulations to The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii on its 150th anniversary, and best wishes for continued success in the years ahead.●

TRIBUTE TO EDMUND F. BALL

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, Hoosiers have been remembering and celebrating the remarkable life and achievements of one of our greatest citizens, Edmund F. Ball. I want to share with the nation a most appropriate tribute published in the Muncie Star Press of October 3, 2000 by Phil Ball.

The article follows:

Ed Ball took his last flight Sept. 30. This was an unscheduled flight but with a good pilot who probably let Ed handle the controls for some of the trip.

This was a flight into history—a flight into legend.

Ed died in Ball Memorial Hospital. Just across the street is the Edmund F. Ball Medical Education Center. And a half-mile away stands the Edmund F. Ball Building on the Ball State campus. A mile and a half away in Community Civic Center (once the Masonic Temple) is an assembly room named the Edmund Ball Auditorium. Those are just a few of the monuments to this most important citizen who has ever lived in our hometown of Muncie.

But Ed's life and times and image and achievements and generosity were his most important monuments.

Ed wasn't one to brag. Those who knew him knew his modesty and his tendency toward self-deprecating humor. One of Ed's witticisms was to say that after his life was over, all he had done was "to cross the street." To explain this, he pointed out that he was born on East Washington Street and when he died he would be laid out and prepared for burial at Meeks Mortuary across the other side of East Washington Street.

But in almost 96 years between those two events, Ed accomplished more than any 10 people and became a legend in his own time, although he would be the first to deny any such words of grandiloquence. This hometown of his and mine and yours has been the beneficiary of countless works of his mind and his generosity.

The last time I saw Ed was when he was hospitalized in June 1999 with a minor problem—heart trouble. I am glad that at that